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County Commission awarded annual EDP Renewables check, discuss routine business

BY OLIVIA BERGMEIER
 The Cloud County Commission met at 9 a.m. on Monday, March 2, at the Cloud County Courthouse in Concordia. There, commissioners Ron Copple, Dannie Kearn and chairman Mike Cleveland, alongside County Clerk Shella Thoman, discussed a wide range of topics, from day-to-day maintenance to multiple annual funding considerations.

Beginning with some routine business, the commission approved several tax abatements from a list of landfill fee exemptions for various organizations within Cloud County.

Some significant discussion items included the \$300,000 annual check from EDP Renewables as part of the pilot agreement initially set with the

company. EDP Renewables representative Ethan Mahin presented the check alongside providing a few maintenance updates for the commission.

The commission also discussed the annual grant request for the 12th Judicial District with Juvenile Services Director Dawn Snyder. Besides these grant considerations, the commission also approved the 2027 adult and juvenile services grant application requests.

In further routine business, the commissioners approved a road closing request and set a hearing for 9 a.m. on Monday, March 23, at the Cloud County Courthouse.

"That application was submitted by K&K Farms," Cleveland said. "They own the land on both sides of the road, so we've agreed to that pending the hearing."

Beyond just this approval for the hearing set later this month, the commission opened a discussion with Cloud County Highway Administrator Rod Michaud. The portion of road that would close is one mile of 180th Road from Union Road south to the river.

Michaud also provided

his update to the commission, which included mostly routine business and preparing for the warmer months with road repairs.

As for other county sectors, multiple department leaders approached the commission with recent activity reports. Cloud County Courthouse Maintenance Manager Jeff Thoman reported only a small amount of recent activity, since he said there isn't much more for him to fix in the courthouse currently. The commission also conducted Jeff Thoman's annual employee review.

Cloud County Health Department Administrator Tonya Sulanka also approached the commission during Monday's meeting, to report that the previously unfunded Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG) has been reinstated for the \$11,000 that's still owed to Cloud County.

"We will now collect that and use it to pay for some office upgrades and software upgrades at the county health department," Cleveland said.

Later in the meeting, Cloud County Home Health Administrator Kendra Annon attend-

ed discussions through a 10-minute executive session where the commission took no action after.

Cloud County Appraiser Kim Winsett and appraiser employee Nancy Owens attended the meeting to discuss current business matters in their office, alongside awarding Owens with the March Employee of the Month title.

ACRE-Strong representative Oleg Alba also attended the commission meeting, where the organization serves as a municipal consultant group. According to Cleveland, Alba approached the commission with his services of consultation when making pilot agreements with renewable energy companies. No action was taken with Alba's organization during the meeting.


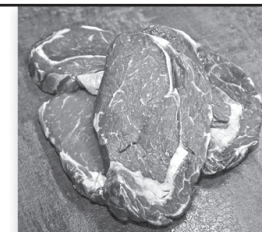
After another discussion about Miltonvale resident Richard Schultz's request for a sewer system variance, which the Cloud County Sanitarian Marlene Stamm approved. The commission then adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

The Cloud County Commission will adjourn at 9 a.m. on Monday, March 9, at the Cloud County Courthouse, 811 Washington Street, in Concordia.

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3	9	6	4	2	5	8	1	7

NOTICE TO CERTIFIED ARBORISTS

The City of Concordia (Sponsor) is hereby soliciting Statements of Proposals from licensed certified arborists who are bonded and is a part of the Kansas Arborist Association and/or International Society of Arboriculture credentialed arborist to plant and prune trees. Subject to the receipt of the Community IRA Grant the project will include the following:

1. The planting of 24 downtown trees.
2. The pruning of 6 trees located at the (3) Broadway Plaza and (3) 5th Street downtown parking lot.
3. The planting of 24 trees designated by the City at other various locations around Concordia.

The full language of the RFP can be found at www.concordiak.org. Interested arborists may contact Amy Lange, City Manager, City of Concordia, at citymanager@concordiak.org or (785) 243-2670 to request consideration for this project. All statements must be received by 4:00 p.m. on March 26, 2026.

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